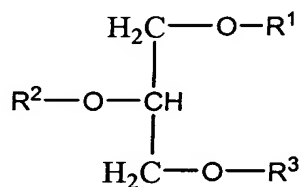


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A method of preventing or treating skin damage, comprising orally administering a composition containing diacylglyceryl ether represented by the formula (I):



wherein R<sup>1</sup> denotes C<sub>12-24</sub> aliphatic hydrocarbon groups having a degree of unsaturation of between 0 and 2; R<sup>2</sup> denotes C<sub>12-24</sub> acyl groups having a degree of unsaturation of between 0 and 6; and R<sup>3</sup> denotes C<sub>12-24</sub> acyl groups having a degree of unsaturation of between 0 and 6.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The method of preventing or treating skin damage of claim 5, wherein the skin damage is wrinkle formation and/or sagging formation, the formation of skin cancer, or the formation of pigmented spots and/or freckles.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The method of preventing or treating skin damage of claim 5, wherein the diacylglyceryl ether is orally administered at a dosage of between 10 mg and 5000 mg per day.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The method of preventing or treating skin damage of claim 5, wherein the composition is provided as processed food.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The method of preventing or treating skin damage of claim 5, wherein the composition is a diacylglyceryl ether-containing composition derived from shark liver oil.

Claim 10 (New): The method of preventing or treating skin damage of claim 5, wherein  $R^1$  denotes a  $C_{18}$  aliphatic hydrocarbon group having a degree of unsaturation of 1,  $R^2$  denotes a  $C_{18}$  acyl group having a degree of unsaturation of 1, and  $R^3$  denotes a  $C_{18}$  acyl group having a degree of unsaturation of 1.